

THE NEWFOUNDLAND QUARTERLY

Autumn Number
1944

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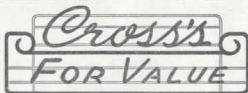
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THE NEWFOUNDLAND QUARTERLY.

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REVIEW OF THE WAR.

The Liberation of France and Belgium—The Invasion of Holland—The Invasion of Germany from East and West—The Axis is Crumbling.

By W. J. BROWNE.

WITHIN three months of the landing of the Allied forces on the beaches of Normandy almost the whole of France and Belgium have been liberated from the hated Huns. The Allied command has expressed surprise at the ease with which the first landings were made and, when once a way through the German lines was found, the lack of opposition to the great armoured spearheads that pushed South and East and West.

The most intense fighting occurred in a small area between the city of Caen and the town of Falaise. Here the Germans opposed to the British forces a concentration of all sorts of defensive weapons that exacted from our army a heavy toll of casualties. The Americans were better situated. The line along the Normandy coast was like a huge door with the hinge at Caen. The Americans were near the opening and pushed it in and dashed through. The British troops with Canadians and Poles had literally to beat down the door at their end.

The Americans exploited their break through with astonishing speed. They sent columns across the Cherbourg peninsula. They captured Cherbourg. They sent columns to the great ports of St. Malo and Brest where the garrisons are still resisting fiercely to the tremendous blows from the Allied guns and the devastating bombings that continue uninterruptedly. Then the Americans turned towards the East and we heard daily of fresh advances. At this stage the Germans counter-attacked the Americans in the narrow corridor at Avaranches. It has been said that this counter-attack was not in conformity to the usual German strategy. In any case the counter-attack was a failure, and the time was ripe for a new push by the British at Caen.

Whilst the British forces were fighting doggedly through Caen towards Falaise one branch of the American forces that were moving rapidly Eastward swung to the North thus creating a huge pocket that contained the bulk of the German forces in Northern France. Gradually the pocket was closed and became smaller and smaller. The outlet was constantly shelled and bombed. The result was an enormous defeat for the German Army. Thousands of Germans were killed and wounded and captured. A huge army of probably three-quarters of a million men have been eliminated from the battle by the magnificent co-ordinating efforts of the British and American forces.

From then on it was a continual march. The Germans were hunted towards the Seine. The Allies entered Paris, but not before the French Forces of the Interior had rebelled against the German garrison and arranged an armistice with the enemy. On August the 25th General de Gaulle entered Paris at the head of a great parade of the Allied Armies. It was the Feast of St. Louis, the great Crusading King of France, and a most auspicious day for the entry of the General. The Germans had not left the city at the time and fired upon the people in the streets. Even as General de Gaulle marched down the aisle of the Cathedral of Notre Dame to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving shots rang out from the galleries around the nave. The joy of the people of Paris at regaining their freedom found an expression in a tumultuous welcome to the British and American troops. All through France and Belgium they received the same enthusiastic and spontaneous greetings. There can be no doubt that life under the Nazis must have been a hell upon earth.

In 1940 the Germans marched suddenly through neutral Holland, Luxembourg and Belgium to attack

France, employing the famous tactics of Clausewitz to annihilate the French and British armies. With the help of Almighty God we were able to evacuate the great bulk of our army and many thousands of French, Belgian and Polish troops as well. Now the action is in reverse. The Germans have not marched back as grandly as they marched forward. Without air support, their armies split up into small divisions, sometimes without officers, they straggled back by any and every means. Thousands of army vehicles were bombed and destroyed on the roads of Northern France.

country is famous for its dykes, it is possible that the advance may be slowed down here, if the Germans chose to open the dykes and flood the country. A Dutch army has been formed under the leadership of Prince Bernhard, and even now is probably fighting on their own native soil

The Invasion of Germany.

All who noted the rapid advance of the Allies across Northern France must have been interested too in the new invasion of Southern France near Toulon, which in a short time captured that great



NEWFOUNDLANDERS FIGHTING IN ITALY.

Picture taken with a Newfoundland unit—the 166th Newfoundland Field Regiment of Royal Artillery, on the Italian front. Picture shows:—Gannor C. R. Baker, of Elliston, Newfoundland, works on G. P. O. truck within sight of German-held territory.

The United Nations gave the Germans no rest, no time to regroup, capturing the big cities of Brussels and Antwerp, in quick succession. The garrisons at Le Havre and Ostend and Boulogne and Calais held out, but the former two have since surrendered. In all it is estimated the great Allied victory brought in 300,000 prisoners.

The Invasion of Holland.

The advance of the British Second Army under General Dempsey and the capture of Antwerp was one of the surprises in this marvellous victory. They have now advanced into Holland. As the

naval base and Marseilles and Bordeaux. The Americans chased the Germans up the valley of the Rhone. Now another American army moving south-east from Paris has joined the one from the South and thus closed the retreat of a large body of German troops, estimated at from 30,000 - 50,000 troops.* It is likely that this force will be annihilated. Other German troops further in advance had been making for the Belfort gap which is a way into Germany unhindered by natural boundaries.

*N.B.—Twenty thousand men of this retreating force surrendered on the 15th day of September to an American Lieutenant and twenty-three men.

Latest messages put French forces less than twenty miles away. The Americans have entered Germany in two places. They have captured the suburb of the border city of Aachen. Further South they have crossed into Germany in another place, and have advanced a depth of 8-10 miles.

Nothing seems to be able to stop the Americans although the Germans might claim their troops had to be withdrawn and although it is too soon to say, it is natural to suppose that the Germans put their best troops on the section where the Allies landed. They were then unable to contain our troops who broke through and spread out at will. The German propaganda machine claims to have new weapons of extraordinary power that will do tremendous damage shortly. As we remember the destruction wrought by the Flying bomb we are grateful that their hiding places have all been captured. The story of an even more powerful defensive weapon is more fantastic than anything. It is used to quieten the German people.

The Germans retreated as fast as they could across France leaving thousands of tanks and other armoured vehicles, transport wagons and vehicles of every description, with guns and ammunition. It is reasonable to believe that this loss cannot be quickly restored and that a large and valuable supply has been lost to the enemy and we shall reap the benefits. Moving our airplanes to Belgium gives us a tremendous advantage. Our planes are blasting German cities more heavily than ever. They cannot stand this much longer.

From the East.

As the Anglo-American armies in France are advancing against the main enemy the Russian troops are attacking heavily in the East. After several weeks of silence the Russian forces attacked and captured Praga, a suburb of Warsaw, on the right bank of the Vistula opposite Warsaw. The Poles inside the city, as the Russian offensive drew near, attacked the German forces in the city. The Poles of Warsaw have had a terrible time, being bombed from the air and shelled from the ground. They have displayed the most remarkable courage given by any one in this war. No city has ever suffered so terribly as Warsaw and yet the spirits of the people are high. They look for an early liberation.

The Italian Campaign.

In Italy the Germans are fighting a delaying action trying to hold off the Allied advance until the arrival of winter gives them an opportunity to recover from the series of defeats they have suffered. The Gothic line across Northern Italy was a means of accomplishing this, but latest reports from the front in Italy seem to indicate that Allied forces have penetrated into the defences and that here as elsewhere the Germans face a setback. It must be remembered that in modern warfare natural barriers like the mountain ranges of Italy and Southern Europe are of greater assistance to a defending force than bastions of concrete and steel. A river barrier is not as useful an obstacle in this respect because through the use of the airplane and better artillery fire crossings may be made with full protection.

Reports from Italy indicate also that the famous cities of that country have not all had the fate of the cities of Sicily. Florence is largely preserved although fighting took place in its streets, and even the leaning tower of Pisa, although allegedly used as an observation post still remains as one of the world's major wonders.

Germany's Plight.

The end of the war in Europe has been hastened by a number of circumstances brought about by the Russian advance. Roumania has withdrawn from the Axis and has become a full ally of the United Nations against Germany. Bulgaria is in process of doing the same thing. Finland has retired from the war against Russia and 160,000 troops from Germany are supposed to be withdrawn by September 15th.*

Russian troops have linked up with the Serbian fighters under the Communist leader named Marshal Tito, as he is called. This places a barrier across Southern Europe and would appear to make it extremely difficult for many German divisions in Greece to escape capture.

All these losses have seriously reduced Germany's fighting strength. The war is continued only in a state of desperation. An absolute tyranny reigns in Germany. Hitler is full of pride and he would rather see millions of Germans die than submit. For he attributed the German surrender in

*The troops were not all withdrawn in time. One group attacked a Finnish fortress and was itself attacked and beaten.

the last war to cowards behind the lines and it would look small for a great man like he thinks himself to be to humble himself to surrender. The years of false immoral propaganda have produced many fanatics in the Nazi troops. They feel therefore defeat much more keenly than we ever felt it, although we had more to lose. These men have nothing but pride to lose. Unless something unforeseen happens the hideous nightmare of German rule in Europe is drawing to a close.

Another Conference.

Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt have met again this month in the peaceful, picturesque setting of old Quebec. It is probable that even now new arrangements are being made for the management of Germany, for with the Yanks assailing the Seigfried line the final defeat of Germany should be very near. It is also probable that the discussions concern the proportion in which Britain and the United States will participate in the attack against Japan. Gradually the forces of General McArthur are approaching the Philippines. The Japs are being outmanoeuvred and outfought. The chief element in their early successes was surprise. Now that the United States and British forces are equipped and advancing the Japs are no match for them.

Japan is a pagan nation. In many respects the code of the Government and Army is like that of the Nazis. Certainly the idea that springs from the Christian belief in the priceless value of a human soul, that all men are precious to Almighty God, and therefore possess natural rights which must be treated with dignity and respect finds no place in either code. For the Jap or the Nazi the Nation is infinitely more important than the individual. The individual exists solely for the State. There seems to be no hope for Japan. Yet the Russian attitude is uncertain. Russia may fear too strong a China

and may be willing to remain on friendly terms to her old enemy, Japan. It is too soon yet to expect Russia to declare what her action will be.

NOTE—Since the above was written the British Second Army has plunged across Holland to the German border. Thousands of British troops were landed without interruption behind the German lines by parachute and glider planes. Lately one German lamented that the British and Americans were now copying very successfully the tactics which the Germans had invented. This manoeuvre has cut off about 70,000 more German troops. Nearly half a million soldiers have been captured in this campaign since D-Day, June 6th. Brest and Boulogne have now been taken by the British and Canadian troops. Eindhoven in Holland has been captured.

The lynching of Doctor Canetta, a witness in the trial of Pietro Caruso, former Fascist prison official in Rome, is an indication that there is a very grave danger of the pendulum swinging too far to the left. Some journalists are making a very serious mistake in overestimating the weight of the Communist element and are far too critical of the Christian Democratic Party which, before the march on Rome, had the largest number of Deputies in the Italian lower Chamber.

That a witness could be murdered in Rome in the presence of the police, in the very Palace of Justice, under the eyes of the Allied occupying authorities and, although photographs reveal the identity of the murderers, no action is taken, points to the fear of the Extremists that must now exist in liberated Italy. What is the difference between the extreme Fascists and the extreme Communists?

In Denmark the police has been disbanded but resisted forcibly. There are strikes all through the country.—W. J. B.



BRITAIN'S LATEST SPITFIRE—MARK XII.

The latest Spitfire—the Spitfire Mark XII—is fitted with Rolls Royce Griffon engine. Points to note are the clipped wings, for low altitude fighting, the new pointed rudder, and the newly shaped nose housing the Griffon motor. Picture shows a formation of Spitfire Mark XII's in flight.

Rockefeller Center

New York's "City within a City"

By R. H. TAIT.

VISITORS to New York, whether from foreign shores or from the vast spaces of the United States itself, inevitably find their way to Rockefeller Center, for Rockefeller Center is truly the show place of New York, a city within a city, and a monument to American genius and American boldness of enterprise.

Here rise the lofty towers and landscaped offices of the R. C. A. Building, the R. K. O. Building, the Associated Press Building, the Time and Life Building, the International Building, the Eastern Airlines Building, La Maison Francaise, the British Empire Building, the Italian Building and the United States Rubber Company Building, and rumour has it that acquisition of other property nearby is being negotiated for the purpose of adding still more buildings to the already giant enterprise.

Rockefeller Center furnishes a storehouse of interest which is almost limitless, and its history is almost fantastic, for the development as it stands to-day veers far away from the original intention.

As New York, in time, grew in wealth and prestige, it seemed to acquire all the material advantages that any city could wish for. New York was Power, Prosperity and Promise. Its stores, its theatres, its avenues and its buildings were the finest and the largest in the world. It attracted all the biggest and best in almost every line of human endeavour. It became a world centre of research development in the fields of science, medicine engineering, education and many other relationships. Broadway was the last word in theatrical magnificence. Madison Square Garden or the Polo Grounds staged the cream of the heavyweight championship fights. The World Series was the real thing only when it was played in New York.

In one field, however, New York was surpassed by European capitals—in the field of opera. New York was unable to capture the magnetic atmosphere of Milan, Nice, Berlin, Vienna, Paris, as

centres of interest in the operatic world. New York's Metropolitan Opera House could not compare architecturally in grandeur of space or in acoustic properties with the well known opera houses of the European Continent or South America. And New York was conscious of this fact, and there were some who for many years felt that New York deserved an opera building comparable in beauty and importance with those across the sea.

Early in 1928 a definite plan was formulated for the erection of an opera centre for New York, and one of those interested in the project was John D. Rockefeller, Jr., a patron of the arts and a keen lover of music. Under the terms of the plan, Mr. Rockefeller agreed to lease from Columbia University, for twenty-one years, the property now occupied by Rockefeller Centre and to make available to the Metropolitan Opera Company the central portion of the area, upon which the Opera Company was to erect, at its own expense, a suitable building. Mr. Rockefeller was to lease the remaining portion of the area to others for commercial development. Negotiations were begun with Columbia University for leasing the property. Unfortunately, certain other interests were also bidding for the same property, with the result that the rental was increased from \$300,000 annually, the amount Columbia was then receiving, to the stupendous figure of \$3,300,000. On this basis the lease was made. But before the Metropolitan Opera Company had a chance to get its plans definitely under way, the depression engulfed the country and the project as planned had to be abandoned.

As a result, Mr. Rockefeller was left with a twenty-one year lease on almost three blocks of unimproved property in the heart of the city of New York and was personally liable to Columbia University for the \$3,300,000 annual rent for this period. Mr. Rockefeller called a meeting to take stock of the situation and to see what could be salvaged from the wreckage. The position as he

and his associates viewed it was somewhat as follows:—

The difference between the property's annual income and the rent contracted for amounted to \$3,000,000 to say nothing of the taxes.

The property was unimproved save for some 218 antiquated brownstone houses, and the chances of substantially increasing the rent from these structures was out of the question.

Mr. Rockefeller, without faltering and without a backward glance at what had happened, decided to improve the property. Attempts were made to sub-lease portions of the property to various business interests, but the depression by that time was so severe that no one could be interested. It became obvious that whatever development was to take place must be by Mr. Rockefeller on a gigantic scale. He called together some of the ablest real estate men and architects in the country and they started work on plans for the greatest enterprise of its kind the world had ever seen.

Acquisition of property outside the Columbia University holdings was decided upon and the staggering task of buying out leases and sub-leases on 218 parcels of land was begun. It was the desire of Mr. Rockefeller not to duplicate facilities already existing in the mid-town area of New York but to create something new, something different,

something that would attract. In this connection two schemes appeared to hold promise. Mr. Rockefeller had for many years held the idea that an international centre would be worthy of establishment, a centre for the promotion of international good will and better understanding in business and political relationships. The present British Empire Building, the French Building, the Italian Building and the International Building are the results of this idea. Secondly, negotiations were begun with the radio interests, consisting of the Radio Corporation of America and its affiliates, the National Broadcasting Company and the Radio-Keith-Orpheum Company, who had been considering the bringing together of the various operations, then very much scattered. An agreement was finally reached whereby the radio group was to lease a million square feet of studio and office space and two theatres.

The first group of buildings, comprising the British Empire Building, La Maison Francaise, the R. C. A. and R. K. O. Buildings, the Radio City Music Hall and the Centre Theatre, totalling over 3,000,000 square feet of space, was completed in 1933. No sooner were these buildings completed than the depression caught up with these key tenants, and the commitments for office and studio space had to be cut in half. On top of that, the Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corporation (R.K.O.) was forced into receivership, throwing the management



Green Hend, Spaniard's Bay, near Harbour Grace, Conception Bay.

of the two theatres into the Rockefeller hands. When all was said and done, the nucleus of 1000,000, square feet of space had melted down into a little over 400,000 square feet.

Nevertheless, Mr. Rockefeller persevered with his plans and, despite the set-backs forged ahead with the building operations. In 1935, the Italian and International Buildings were completed, and in 1937 the Time and Life Building. On November 1st, 1939, Mr. Rockefeller himself drove home the last rivet in the fourteenth and final building of Rockefeller Centre—the United States Rubber Company Building.

To-day the Center occupies twelve acres of ground, and contained in the group of fourteen buildings will be found:—

Three theatres, one of them the world's largest.

Business offices of more than 2000 corporations and firms.

Twenty-six restaurants.

One of the leading museums of the country.

Twelve spacious landscaped rooftops, with trees, shrubs, lawns, pools and thousands of blossoming plants.

The home studios of the National Broadcasting Company's two nation-wide net works.

A United States Post Office, with Money Order, Parcel Post and Registry facilities.

A branch office of the U. S. Government Passport Bureau.

A Bonded Warehouse.

Consular and Trade and Tourist Offices of many foreign countries, including Newfoundland in the British Empire Building.

The only outdoor artificial ice skating pond in mid-town New York, and many other activities covering a wide range of interest and service.

Other interesting facts are these:—

Within the Center there are over two miles of store-front windows, and in one or other of the establishments almost every conceivable article of merchandise may be purchased.

Most of the buildings are connected by sub-surface concourses, and it is possible, for instance,

to walk under cover from Fifth Avenue to Sixth Avenue in one direction, and from 48th Street to 51st Street in the other direction.

Rockefeller Centre contains the world's largest air conditioning system in a commercial development.

The central tower of the seventy story R. C. A. Building rises to a height of 850 ft. above the ground and with favourable weather conditions one can see for fifty miles in all directions.

The daily population of Rockefeller Center is more than 150,000. Twenty-six thousand persons work in the Center, but more than 125,000 persons, bent on business or pleasure, visit the Center every day.

In the R. C. A. Building are the fastest elevators in the world, able to cover the distance from the ground floor to the 65th floor in approximately thirty-seven seconds.

In the forecourt of the International Building on Fifth Ave. is the massive bronze statue of Atlas, forty-five feet high and weighing 14,000 pounds. The armillary sphere borne on the shoulders is twenty-one feet in diameter, the largest ever cast.

The Center Theatre is nine stories tall and has a seating capacity for 3,350 persons, whilst Radio City Music Hall, fittingly called "The Show Place of the Nation," seats 6,200 persons. The stage of the Music Hall is 144 feet ft. wide and 62 ft. deep, and the screen on which the pictures are projected is the largest ever built, measuring 70 ft. by 40 ft. The fame of the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes is widespread and they are considered the greatest group of precision dancers in the world. The third Theatre is the Newsreel Theatre given over entirely to news films of world happenings and events of the day.

During the building operations more than 75,000 union workmen were employed, and the largest single item, measured by volume, used in the construction operations was not steel or concrete, lime stone or granite, but cinders. Over 400,000 tons of rock and earth were excavated to provide the resting place for the giant enterprise.

Through an Act of Congress Rockefeller Center has been created a free port, and any importer can thus have his goods on display there without payment of duty until the time of sale. In this con-

nection, the sub-basement contains a bonded warehouse, occupying some 32,000 sq. feet, whilst a huge subterranean shipping room, thirty-four feet below street level, underlies the main portion of the Center.

In the Eastern Air Lines Building is a six-story garage, which provides parking facilities for the Center's permanent tenant population and accommodates 800 cars.

The Guided Tour of Rockefeller Center offers the quickest and simplest way of gaining a comprehensive conception of the gigantic enterprise, and every day in the year sees a throng of visitors, in groups with a guide, taking in the sights and listening to the unfolding of the story of the intent and purpose of the various points of interest.

Studio 8-H of the National Broadcasting Company, located on the eight floor of the R. C. A. Building, is the world's largest. This studio is three stories

high and seats 1,300 spectators, whilst the semi-circular stage can accommodate a 400-piece orchestra.

Sculpture, painting and decoration play an important part in the design of Rockefeller Center and some of the leading artists of the day co-operated in the art programme which Rockefeller Center sponsored. As a result, the exquisite murals, pieces of sculpture and other forms of decoration found in the Centre comprise one of the most interesting collections of contemporary art to be found in America. Eight huge murals depict man's progress towards the civilization of to-day. Four of these are by Jose Maria Sert and four by Frank Brangwyn.

When the present leases and renewal options expire, probably in seventy years' time, the land and everything built on it will revert to Columbia University without charge.

This is Rocketeller Center—the "city within a city."

Echoes to Victory.

1914—1918—1944.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, again those marching
feet we hear.

Down, down past the road of time.

Listen, they seem quite near.

See how they keep in step, each head held high,
With just that same assuring smile
As when they said good-bye.

And with that well-known look to us, they
seem to say

We are just over the border,

Not far away.

In the land of the blue forget-me-not
And where the poppies bloom red,
Our spirits are ever with you,

We are not dead.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, keep faith with us still
they say.

We hold the flag for truth and right,

We are marching with you to-day.

—MARGARET JAMIESON.

Our Promise to Keep.

1914—1918—1944.

Let us go forward together.

On land, in the sky, on the sea.

There is no cause that is half so grand,

As England and liberty.

With the memory of loved ones, gone
on before.

We must not forget or falter;

Inspired with their sacrifice,

As in days of yore.

We shall go forward together.

—MARGARET JAMIESON.

Signs of Autumn.

Over the earth

The leaves crimson

And fall from the trees,

As the meek sun passing

Through the autumnal signs

Of the year

Pours out its gold.

—NELLIE AMOS.

The Inland Postal History of Newfoundland.

By REV. H. F. G. D. KIRBY, Harbour Grace.

(CONTINUED)

HERE is the story of a courier's experience in a winter's crossing of Colinet Arm and Rocky River, when at times rafts of ice float down the river in heavy masses and with such rapidity as seemingly to deter the boldest heart from attempting the ford.

On one occasion a son of Kelly, the mail contractor, crossed this river with the mails in the depth of winter, being nearly to his armpits. He had to pursue his journey (a distance of twenty-four miles) in his wet clothes, through newly fallen snow,

Another grave difficulty was the wet state in which letters were delivered by the couriers in the several outposts. A large portion of the correspondence becoming illegible from friction in the bags while the letters were thus damp. The bags in use were made of well-prepared sheepskin, but proved not to be sufficiently water-proof for the long, severe and exposed travel of this country. We find Mr. Solomon lamenting that he is unable to remedy this defect—no funds being placed at his disposal to meet contingencies arising in the department.



ROCKY RIVER, NEAR COLINET.

several feet deep; the consequence was that although a young, strong and athletic man, he found the hardships of the road almost too great to be overcome; he had, therefore, to hang the mails to a tree and hurry on to Placentia. After reaching his home at great risk and almost exhausted he prevailed on a gang of his neighbours to go and seek for the mails and his horse, both of which he was compelled to abandon, and after some difficulty were found, and subsequently the mails were delivered to the Postmistress at Placentia. These mails which lay three days exposed and unprotected in the woods contained money to a large amount—one package contained £130 and was addressed to the Rev. E. Condon, Placentia.

He notes in his Western inspection tour of 1856, that arriving at Burin, he went with the mails to the Post Office to see the effects produced on the letters by the wet. The bags in their transit from Salmonier to Colinet having been exposed to heavy rain the whole distance. He found the names on many of the papers and letters illegible showing the necessity of having the letters made up in water-proof bags.

And two years later (1858) in a letter to the Burin Postmaster, he writes, quote: "I have given strict instructions to the couriers on this side of Placentia to throw over the mail bags, during damp weather, either tarpaulin or Buffalo robes and you will desire Collins to be equally particular. I am

of opinion, however, that the injury to the correspondence has been caused by friction in consequence of the carelessness of couriers allowing the bags to be sat upon by their passengers, and which I have strictly prohibited. I had contemplated to have had the mails sent in oilcloth bags or in Indian rubber, neither of which, however, I found would have been strong enough—and our roads are not sufficiently good to have them sent, as in England and elsewhere, viz:—in wooden boxes instead of bags, each having a lock and key. To Postmaster at Burin.

As complaints in the service arose they were promptly dealt with by the Postmaster General as far as possible within his limitations.

We must not lose sight of the fact that the whole postal staff in the outports employed to establish Inland Posts was untrained, inexperienced and without esprit-de-corps. This fact added greatly to the Postmaster-General's difficulties, all were known and bonded servants of the postal service, but at this period a breach of contract gave little concern to the contractors. It was the onerous duty of the Postmaster General to discipline and train his staff.

Let me recount a few of the sins of omission and commission of those stout hearted pioneers.

1. Mail between Trinity and King's Cove suspended in consequence J. M.—courier being at St. John's, without leave.



OLD COLINET ROAD.

He suggested a bi-yearly inspection of the mail packets, one by the the stipendiary magistrates resident at the posts where said vessels are employed and one by the Postmaster General until such time as the Department could afford a regular inspector; a suggestion that extra boats be carried by steamers, to be written into future contracts.

The substitution of steamboats for the present inefficient sailing vessels, respectfully proposes that a steamer be laid on between St. John's, Placentia, Burin, St. Pierre, Harbour Britain, Burgeo and LaPoile, if too expensive then to route between Placentia and above named places. In the event of His Excellency the Governor not concurring propose a more powerful and a better class of sailing packet be employed on the western stations, vessels of twenty to twenty-five tons.

2. Mail placed aboard packet Sunday evening, skipper made no attempt to sail until Monday evening. Then wind ahead.

3. A Packet skipper, with mails aboard, but being his birthday stayed in port to celebrate. Postmaster General doesn't give details.

4. A Packet skipper who in his home port was a strict Sabbatarian, if the mails arrived Saturday evening would not sail until Monday morning, despite the contract which read: "Sail immediately mails are aboard."

5. The Postmaster who failed to keep an appointment with the Postmaster General on official business, one of Mr. Solomon's visits of inspection. The Postmaster got a jolly good wiggling and barely escaped suspension.

6. A very efficient courier, highly recommended, being given to offensive language of which the Postmasters complained. The Postmaster General confirms his appointment but warns if he offends again he will be very severely dealt with.

A form of discipline for tardy skippers of packets and couriers, was a time bill of departure and arrival at the Post Offices concerned, signed by the Postmasters; this bill, it necessary, to be laid before the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

One other occasion when the Postmaster General, on inspection tour, instructed the local Postmaster not to forward mails until the Postmaster General had consulted with the contractors, who, ignoring the Postmaster General's order, ordered the mail packet to sail without the mails. Quote Postmaster General: "The contractor has, by his act, laid himself open to a fine for breach of contract, and which,

1. *Postage Stamps.*

Messrs. Poole and Huber in their hand book entitled "Postage Stamps of Newfoundland," quote: "Although Newfoundland had obtained control of its own postal service from the Imperial Government at the same time as other colonies in British North America, it was the last but one to issue Postage Stamps."

On May 31st, 1851, an Act for the establishment and regulation of Inland Posts in the country was passed by the Legislature, an amendment was made June 14th, 1852, which authorized an issue of postage stamps but no attempt was made to secure the stamps, principally in accordance with the local government's economical policy, certainly not for lack of interest on the part of Mr. Solomon who



TOWN OF PLACENTIA.

I think, should be enforced that a proper discipline may at all times be observed in the department and without which no regularity can exist."

In a report of 26th July, 1855, Mr. Solomon proposes the following:

1. The immediate introduction of Imperial, provincial and local postage stamps; Imperial to be of the value 1d. and 6d. Provincial of 4d., 6½d. and 1/-, and the local 3d.

2. That authority be given for the registration of letters and that an extra charge of 6d. be made on each letter for such registration.

3. The introduction of the money order system would be a great boon to persons wishing to transmit small sums through the Post Office to their friends in Great Britain. He states that as yet the system had not been introduced in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, or Canada.

was a strenuous advocate for their issue and use. We have his report of 1851 wherein he proposed colonial stamps for the country. It was probably this proposal that brought in the amendment as above stated.

The Postmaster General again refers to the stamps in his report of 1853 and recommends their introduction, and again in July, 1855, report he appeals for the immediate introduction of Imperial, provincial and local stamps. Imperial to be of the value of 1d. and 6d., provincial 4d. and 6½d., and 1/-, and local 3d.

The Postmaster General was evidently so discouraged with the meagre results of his efforts that he made no further mention of postage stamps until they had actually been issued. Then in a report

dated January 25th, 1857, he announced that: "The postage stamps which I had the honour to recommend in former reports have been procured and were brought into use on the 1st January, 1857, since which date £29 worth have been sold."

Secretary's Office,
Sept. 3rd, 1855.

W. L. Solomon, Esq.,

Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo on the subject of a device for the postage stamps about to be brought into use in this country.

His Excellency the Governor directs me to inform you that you are authorized to take measures to procure the impression such as you have described and the numbers contained in your letter.

It is his Excellency's desire that the Colonial stamps be triangular, the Imperial square, and the Inter-colonial oval.

J. KENT,

Acting Colonial Sec'y.

(To be continued.)



SIMPLICITY.

By R. J. CONNOLLY.

*How nice to walk just after rain
Along some hidden country lane;
To taste the fragrance in the air,
Because of alders growing there.*

*How nice to lie beneath the trees,
When summer's breath blends with the breeze;
To resurrect a broken dream,
Or live again some friend's esteem.*

*How nice to feel through books that we
May journey far across the sea;
May leave a lovely place of birth
To touch the very ends of earth.*

*How nice to sit within a room
With papered walls and flowers in bloom,
And, cozy near an old fireplace,
To know a mother's lovely face.*

*To sit within such homely ease,
And do the thing that's sure to please,
The while perhaps torrential rain
Makes pearly cobwebs in the lane.*

*How nice to go to bed at night
At peace when we turn off the light;
In fine, so live that when we die
Our souls at once will breast the sky.*

A Canadian Soldier Reviews Two Years Newfoundland Duty

By SGT. C. S. McKNIGHT.

A Canadian Soldier Reviews Two Years Newfoundland Duty. Came with Doubts about Britain's Oldest Colony—Stayed to like Country and People. Fox-holes Hard to Dig. Winter Training held many surprises in Cooking.

HAVING been stationed in Newfoundland for over two years, and having travelled over much of this oldest British Colony, its fascination to me still defies adequate description.

My first introduction to the island came in 1941 when our Regiment was ordered from the verdant green valleys of Vancouver Island to what was then the distant and unknown country of Newfoundland. I can recall that my mind was filled with misgivings. I pictured a dreary land, continually surrounded by fog. A harsh land that was always in the throes of Atlantic gales and snow

storms, nor was my imagination eased by the first sight of the island.

Our troopship had proceeded up the Gulf of St. Lawrence, through the Strait of Belle Isle and on into the North Atlantic. While passing through the Strait we could see the Northern shore of Newfoundland on one side and the shore-line of Labrador on the other. Having made up my mind that I wasn't going to like the place, the first glimpse of the rugged, rocky shore-line clinched the idea for me.

Two days later we put into port on the Eastern shore. We had spent the best part of the forenoon



Capt. Fred R. Davies, Public Relations Officer, and Sgt. C. S. McKnight look over the "Effie M. Morrissey," owned by Capt. Bob Bartlett, Brigur.

wending our way along a narrow channel surrounded on either side by high granite walls, these finally melted away and gave place to well-tilled or wooded hillsides. Then we docked at one of the Island's famous fishing ports. Our grey transport loomed high and impressive, like a Queen surrounded by her ladies-in-waiting, for the port was filled with high-masted schooners making ready for their journey to the "banks." Their sails filled the air with gay colours, cables were creaking, the anchors straining, the hustle and bustle was mixed with the good natured laughter and loud commands as a sturdy, sea-loving people prepared to catch the valuable "Cod."

Our next move was to transfer from the troop transport to the troop train. Fearing that my Captain would spot me as a likely candidate to help with the removal of luggage and Quartermaster Stores, I availed myself of a very quiet corner on the ship and was soon lost in a gruesome mystery story. I was brought back to realities by the bugler sounding "Fall In." Two companies formed up on the ship's deck and moved down the gang plank for a short route march through the town. Our feelings were mixed on this march. One was curiosity about the people and place and the other a severe pride in our two bands which were alternately giving forth for all they had.

I might add that we had three bands in our unit, we had only two with us, the other had gone with the first flight which had made for our final rendezvous by a different route. There was a brass band, a bugle band and a pipe band and of course there was our famous dance orchestra. We were almost ready to run opposition to Barnum and Bailey, if we had had a couple of elephants we could have charged admission.

With us that day we had the brass band and the bugle band. The people came out of their homes and smiled and waved and applauded our bands and we were happy for here was an appreciative audience, so the country couldn't be too bad after all.

Our journey on the troop train is something never to be forgotten. The coach we were in was probably one of the first to come to the island. It was of wood, except the wheels, the seats were narrow and made of slats. By the time you had two duffle bags and the rest of gear perched around you there wasn't much room to move. Some of the boys made themselves at home on the floor in the aisle. These I thought were the smart ones and were using their noddles; later I changed my mind as some of the more restless fellows tied handkerchiefs around their faces and started playing Jesse James, dashing up the coach and not minding where they stepped.



Mr. Cook of Blackhead talks to Canadian soldiers as they take part in battle exercises. The training these boys receive here prepares them for the job in Normandy.

At our destination the first two days were given over to presenting arms, saluting and telling the departing unit what fine fellows they were and if they kept on trying hard they might become as efficient as our Regiment. Their actions and remarks of course were along the same lines. After the last tearful farewells were said, we settled down to a task that lasted for over a year, a year filled with guard duty and training.

The first bit of training took the form of digging a new series of fox holes and the officer having an eye to the welfare of his men seemed always to pick the stoniest ground. Back home it took two men 60 minutes to dig a weapon pit, here it took six days. That's probably the reason he chose the sites, to keep the fellows in good physical condition and fighting trim. We always knew that an officer in the Canadian Army never demands of his men something that he wouldn't do himself, so we all merrily chipped away at the stones knowing that he would do it too (if it became necessary).

It was while we were at this post that I first met and talked to a Newfoundlander and immediately fell in love with the people of the Island. Although I could only understand a few sentences he said, for he talked so fast, his meaning, his happiness and his hospitality were only too plain and this geniality is common to all people throughout the Island.

Later as I got used to their habit of talking fast and soft accents I was able to understand them readily.

Other recreation at this post included in the summer, fishing from the innumerable ponds and lakes which teemed with trout and other game fish. If we wished there were bear and caribou to hunt, although very few boys took part in this pastime, as they had no use for the meat as long as the army rations held out, which they always did in summer.

Another fine thing about Newfoundland is that there are no snakes. I have yet to see a snake on the Island and I have yet to meet a Newfoundlander who has seen one. Game birds are in abundance and ducks by the million make the little known parts of the Island their home. Of course we had the other forms of recreation, swimming, baseball, etc.

Our guard work, which is still very hush hush, was boring and tiresome.

In winter we enjoyed all the winter sports, skiing, snowshoeing, skating and of course the old Army pastime, winter training. After the fellows who read training pamphlets and finished the winter training one, they loaded us down with 60lb. packs, a pair of skis and a toboggan to pull and we would set out across country and be gone two or three days. At



Looking seaward, Canadian soldiers scan the horizon as they guard the shores of Newfoundland.

noontime we would start to prepare dinner after everyone had cooled down like icicles.

With visions of hot tea and beef steaks we would try and build a fire. We moved around like frozen penguins, gathering small twigs and branches, nursing the tiny flame when it decided to stay with us, hopeful that we had dug down to the ground and not some frozen crust of snow. When the latter happened, we would stand disconsolate and watch the fire sink out of sight, or, in a frenzy, try to keep feeding it until it struck bottom, our feet getting colder by the minute. When the cheery fire was finally going and we began to feel human again our next problem was trying to keep out of the smoke while we cooked dinner, but it was no use. Every time you moved the smoke would follow, and so with dirty faces and smarting eyes, we cleared the bits of twigs and bark from our tea and ate one of the finest meals ever tasted.

The year soon passed and again we were packing up, as the Regiment prepared to move off to our next post in Newfoundland. This time travelling overland on the Newfoundland Railway, which is owned by the Government, and has done such a magnificent piece of war work in handling troops

and war supplies, we arrived at one of the more densely populated portions of the Island. We were again greeted with kindness and hospitality by the people and spent another enjoyable year in their midst.

Here we were able to see the latest movies from a choice of several theatres. We were invited to spend week-ends at summer cottages. The girls had organized dance nights when all we had to do was to bring ourselves and the girls looked after the rest.

Again we had training, but by now we had advanced to that stage where we did manoeuvres. Of course first we had to dig a new series of fox holes and then we would dash to these fox holes and convince an imaginary Heinie that it wasn't worth his while trying to land on Britain's Oldest Colony. What usually happened was we got the very dickens from farmers for digging in their pasture fields.

Looking back now on the sequence of experiences, it is not easy to remember all the high lights, but they were filled with excitement and pleasure. I like being stationed in Newfoundland.



Newfoundland children taking an interest in a Canadian Army Universal Carrier.
These vehicles are now a common sight to most Newfoundlanders.

The Catholic Priest in the U. S. Army

By REV. EDWARD J. SAUNDERS, Chaplain U. S. Army.

THE present conflict both in Europe and Asia has brought many new opportunities to the religious interests of the United States. To date over 7,000 Chaplains of all denominations serve the Army. Of this number about 2,000 are Catholic priests.

TM 16-205, Sec 1, par 1, (the Chaplain) states "Centuries of experience show the necessity of the deliberate and systematic cultivation of spiritual forces and moral character in the Army. Not only do they have the same value for the individual in military as in civil life, but they are necessary, if cordial relations between the civil and military communities are to be maintained. Equally important is their contribution to military efficiency. The man of disciplined character and conscious rectitude, associated with comrades and led by officers who command his respect, can be trusted to endure privation and perform his duties in camp or on the battlefield. Native bravery and thorough training cannot produce the best type of soldier without a consciousness of obligation to do his duty in all relationships. The Chaplain's task is to stimulate and guide the growth of this spiritual sense. Such a consciousness seldom exists apart from religion, and to most people they are but two names for the same attitude and experience. A minister of religion is trained and experienced in directing psychological forces and cultivating spiritual life. This makes him the logical person to assume the task of conserving and developing these values in the military forces. As a man of education and professional standing, he is both minister and officer. As an exponent of a religion which teaches kindness and sympathy as well as reverence and justice, he will be a friend to men of every rank and station."

Monsignor William Arnold, Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Army, holding the rank of Brigadier General, is a Catholic priest. His prudence, kindness, and far sighted spiritual interests in all chaplains, has endeared himself to Protestant, Jew and Catholic

alike. He is now serving his second four-year term as Chief of Chaplains, having been enthusiastically confirmed in this office by President Roosevelt and General Marshall.

When Monsignor Arnold was asked in 1939 to make plans for the absorption of several thousand Chaplains, he demanded several things and obtained them. First, he asked Ecclesiastical indorsement from every man to enter the Chaplain Corps. Unless the Bishop or Religious Superior give his approval, no one would be accepted. This meant the Army would receive only those considered worthy by their own people. Secondly, he asked an appropriation to erect chapels throughout the various military establishments in the United States. Congress approved. If one were to visit these training centers now, he would see a \$50,000,000 program of chapel-construction, which has added greatly to the spiritual and moral welfare of the American Army. Thirdly, Msgr. Arnold is responsible in having Chaplains assigned for religious work only. This is a Chaplain's purpose in the Army and the one to which he should devote his whole energy. Duty as Special Service Officer, Theatre Officer, Censor, Exchange Officer, or the like, may not be assigned, for, if he is conscientious and sincere in his spiritual work, he will not have time for these.

With the Army recognizing the place of the priest in uniform, already great dividends have been paid in kind. Seldom does a week go by, than we hear the heroism and inspiration of an Army Chaplain. Father Hoffman, the only Chaplain to receive the Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star—for valor in Tunisia—has recently returned to the States—legless. Father James Fitzgerald, of Tulagi and Cape Gloucester fame; Father Meany of Tarawa; the heroic Father Schmitt, who gave his life at Pearl Harbor; Father Washington, a victim of the North Atlantic torpedoing, and Father Falter who paid

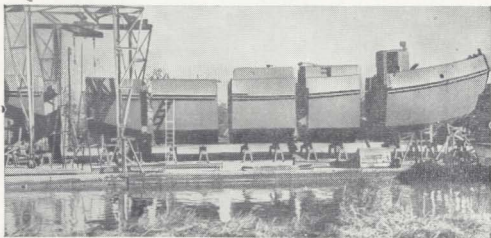
the supreme sacrifice as his landing boat was hit riding the waves before Cassablanca—all testify the zeal of good chaplains. Many other deeds of heroic Catholic priests throughout the Armed Forces will give evidence to all men—a priest is not afraid to die, if he can bring Christ to the men about him. To some it may seem vaunted praise, yet what apparently appears heroic is but ordinary duty for a good priest. The dangers of losing life can never be compared to the dangers confronted in salvation of immortal souls. This battle must be won, no matter what cost.

The Catholic chaplains of the U. S. Army serving in Newfoundland, have been honoured to spend their time of assignment among people of great faith. They have observed the Newfoundland people to be friendly, co-operative and charitable in their associations with the chaplains. Despite the hardships and sufferings experienced, their simple faith has preached a sermon to the Americans, a sermon of patience amid sorrow, a sermon of resignation to the word of God. The lessons learned here and in other parts of the world will prove a mine of spiritual experiences for future service to American soldiers—to make them better citizens and better Christians.

Ode to Love.

By VIOLA GARDNER.

You are my Rock of Ages;
 You wrote the Tablet of Stone,
 You are the Water of Canaan;
 In you lies my strength alone.
 You are my Jacob's Garment,
 Iridescent in hue;
 You are my Seven Pillars.
 There is no other Truth but you.
 You are the mountain of Nebo.
 It was you that sent Manna to me.
 You are the River Jordan
 And you divided the Sea.
 In you Christ conquered Golgotha.
 You turned the day into night
 Rending the sky for Ascension,
 The Love that endureth—the Victor
 Who overcomes might with Right.



PRE-FABRICATED TUGS FROM AMERICA ASSEMBLED IN BRITAIN.

Pre-fabricated tugs are now being assembled in British shipyards from the material sent by American firms of constructional engineers. All the shipyards have to do is to put the parts together. Picture shows:—The pieces are carefully arranged in their right order. It looks as old fashioned as Noah building his Ark. But pre-fabrication is the method which has made mass production ship building possible and may revolutionize house building.

The Modern Trend in Social Welfare Work

By J. A. CLANCY.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR CHILD WELFARE.



UT the battlefields of far away are not the only ones on which it beehoves us to measure the progress of the turning years. We here, at home, who represent the organized forces of social betterment in our own country and in our own communities have been through a struggle too: a struggle to lay the groundwork for a better social organization of those forces and resources, upon which the peacetime security, well-being and livelihood of our fighting men and those they leave behind will depend. This is a struggle in which we will never know the thrill of final or conclusive victory. Success or failure can be measured only in terms of progress towards those ever-receding, ever-changing goals of social betterment which man has set for the community in which he lives."

The above is an extract from the twenty-fourth annual report of the Canadian Welfare Council, under the title "Looking Ahead," and sums up briefly the problem which is being met in the neighbouring Dominion to-day; the problem which all countries of the world are trying to solve, and which we in Newfoundland, have to face up to before it becomes overwhelming.

For the purpose of getting a close-up view of what is being done in Canada, along these lines, in June last, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Brown, Superintendent and Matron, respectively, of the Boys' Institution to be opened soon at Whitbourne, and the writer, visited Canada, where we spent three busy but intensely interesting weeks, during which time we made many contacts and were privileged to be taken through several institutions in the Province of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec.

At Halifax we were given an opportunity of making a study of welfare Services, and through the kindness of Mr. Ernest H. Blois, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare, we were able to get a general picture of the advanced methods for the treatment of young people and of social work. We spent

some time with Mr. F. R. MacKinnon, Assistant Director of Child Welfare, Dr. Brison, Psychiatrist, Miss Lantz of the Children's Aid Society, Miss Burgess of the Charity Welfare Bureau, as well as Miss Romkey, Welfare Worker, and other officials in the office of the Department of Child Welfare. St. Patrick's Industrial Home for Boys, St. Paul's Home for Girls, and the Protestant Industrial Home were visited. In Truro we visited the Maritime Training School for Boys and Girls, the Maritime Home for Delinquent Girls, and a small but efficient home for boys and girls controlled by the Loyal Orange Association. It is interesting to note that Mr. and Mrs. Powers, in charge of the latter, are Newfoundlanders, having left Port-aux-Basques some forty years ago. In St. John, N.B., we met Rev. L. M. Pepperdine, Rector of St. Luke's Anglican Church, recently appointed Judge of the Juvenile Court in that City, which has been in operation about three months. We sat in on a session of the court and saw how it is conducted. Through the kindness of His Lordship Bishop Bray, we visited St. Patrick's Orphanage and St. Joseph's Home for Infants, conducted by the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. We were enabled to spend some time at the Reformatory, conducted by Mr. E. M. Lyons, and we interviewed Mr. Gregg of the Y.M.C.A., as well as Rev. Mr. Scott, recently appointed Director of Child Welfare for the Province of New Brunswick. At Montreal a programme of visits and interviews was arranged for us by Mr. J. F. Dalton of the Catholic Welfare Bureau, and we spent periods at the Juvenile Court, the Detention Home for Juveniles, Weredale Institution, Shawbridge Farm for boys, situated about forty miles outside of the city, the Baron Hirsch Institute and Neighbourhood House, conducted by the Jewish congregation of that city. We had interviews with Rev. Father Berry of the Catholic Welfare Bureau, and with Mr. Smith of the Children's Service Association.

We learned of methods adopted in the treatment of Juvenile Delinquents, of unmarried girls and

family welfare, generally. We were given information on the securing and selection of Foster Homes and adopting parents, and we saw how the various institutions are conducted. We learned that advanced methods are totally different from those thought good enough in the past, and that emphasis is being laid on the importance of having trained staffs of workers who are able to ascertain the causes before treatment is administered. The importance of Welfare Work is realized on all sides and we found that in Quebec new legislation was under consideration by Parliament when we were there; in Nova Scotia a new Act is being framed, and in New Brunswick they are working along similar lines.

Psychiatric treatment of Juveniles is emphasised. It has been found that many children who may be backward in school, and who formerly were considered dull and listless, may be bright along other lines and can be assisted to become useful citizens rather than a burden on the State. Psychiatric examination determines the proper treatment to be applied in such cases. Excellent work is being done at institutions similar to the Maritime Training School where boys and girls are taught all kinds of trades and manual work, and are given the breaks which formerly they didn't receive. We found that Juveniles who had started out on the wrong track were brought back and given their chance in the world, in the several institutions set up for that purpose. Opportunity Schools and classes for similar classes of Juveniles are also thought highly of.

It was really amazing to see what can be done in such places as St. Patrick's Home in Halifax, the Maritime Home in Truro, the Reformatory at St. John, Weredale and Shawbridge near Montreal. The latter constitutes a modern farm of 1,100 acres, of which some 350 are under cultivation. Mr. H. M. Mandigo is in charge. There, as well as at St. John, the boys are taught methods of farming, stock and poultry raising, and it is surprising to note the interest they take in these activities. The old idea that these are places of confinement, only, has passed away. We found no high fences, no bars, and no locked doors; all is conducted on the honour system, and in very few cases do boys or girls sent to these institutions leave without permission. Ample facilities for recreation have been provided. Playing fields, with all modern equipment, gymnasiums, bowling alleys, swimming pools,

all for the use of boys and girls. We found that school, work, and play have their proper places in the programmes outlined. Except for working clothes, there is no regular uniform. Provision is made for religious instruction and for church services, and the parents of the young people are permitted to visit at stated times. We found that in all places emphasis is laid on the necessity of providing playgrounds and recreation for the young people of the cities, and it is a confirmed belief that if boys and girls are given outlet for their excess energy, along legitimate lines, they are less likely to be subjects for the Juvenile Courts and for Reformatories.

The courts are in reality, family courts, because the parents of the juveniles are always summoned to appear, it being felt that much of Juvenile Delinquency is due to faulty environment, and the roots of the evil are implanted in the homes. We found, too, that truancy is found a contributing factor to Delinquency, and for that reason school attendance is insisted upon. In some sections it is felt that it is now necessary to insist on school attendance to the age of sixteen rather than fourteen as formerly.

We found, too, that success is being achieved because of the assistance that is being given by voluntary organizations such as the Children's Aid Societies. Their help in securing suitable Foster Homes, in having children adopted in appropriate homes, and in assisting unfortunate girls in getting on their feet again is very valuable, and Government agencies in all parts of Canada depend largely on such organizations. The various religious denominations play a very large part, too. In Montreal, for instance, nearly all that has been done, up to this, is due to the various organizations set up by the Religious bodies, who work in complete harmony in this connection and who raise their own finances to carry out their wide range of commitments. Government agencies work co-operatively with the Religious bodies, and whilst there is not always complete agreement as to details nothing is permitted to stand in the way of the betterment of the families or the children concerned.

The people of Canada are waking up to the importance of Social Welfare Work, and their support is readily forthcoming. It is realized that this modern world is a much more difficult place for young people to live in; that temptations and allure-

ments are on all sides, and if the world of to-morrow is to be a better place to live in, the boys and girls of to-day must be given every facility to become the kind of people that will make the New World all that everyone hopes it will be.

What, it may be asked, are we doing in Newfoundland? Recently the Division of Child Welfare was set up and an overall picture of what it is hoped to accomplish was given by the Director of Child Welfare in an address which he delivered to the Rotary Club recently, and which was broadcast and published in the Press. New legislation has been framed and is now under consideration by the Commission of Government, and this has been based on the experiences of various Provinces of Canada. It can be said with certainty that the genuine success of Social Welfare Work depends upon the active sympathy and co-operation of all the people. No Government agency of itself can hope to do all that has to be done if we are to keep pace with the rest of the world. We, too, must have organizations which are willing to share the load; we must have Agencies such as they have in Canada to assist children and mothers; we must have men and women who will be prepared to give some of their time to help in the organization of facilities for recreation, hobbies, and useful occupations for our youth. We must be prepared to undertake expenditure of not too modest sums, so that anything that is done will not be of the slipshod type. Parents must co-operate in the matter of school attendance, and the law-enforcing agencies must be assisted in seeing that all children of school age are enrolled. This matter must be considered from the standpoint of the welfare of the children, and not merely because it will be an offense not to have children attending school. There are so many ways in which assistance can be given that one dares not attempt a complete outline. Patriotic citizens who are willing to get into work must be prepared for disappointments, because perfection can never be hoped for, but we must look forward rather than backward, since even moderate success is well worth while. Let us remember, in the words of President Franklin D. Roosevelt: "If anywhere in the country any child lacks opportunity for home life, for health protection, for education, and for moral or spiritual development, the strength of the Nation and its ability to cherish and advance the principles of democracy are thereby weakened."

FIZZLE-OUTERS.

The fascist army was on the strut
(I mean formal inspection)
I thought of something, nothing but—
A fizzle-out collection.

RAINDROPS.

The merry raindrops
Go splashing along the street
In little bare feet.

INFORMAL CHARM.

The ways of culture are more normal
When they are charmingly informal.

MAXIM.

Life cannot be otherwise than time,
Which is eternally alternate light and shadow.

—NELLIE AMOS.



Life's Rhythm.

When life is best,
We sow through days of morning time,
When life is best,
The seeds which germinate to crest
For storage years of golden prime
To make our lives with nature rhyme,
When life is best.

In after-glow
Await the kindly one who reaps—
In after-glow,
While sands of time forever flow
Nor ebb with tide,—the maker keeps
And notes the winnow meter creeps,
In after-glow.

—NELLIE AMOS.

Notes for A History of Agriculture in Newfoundland.

By W. J. BROWNE.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.)

IN the previous article of this series I gave a short account of the smothering of the Experimental Farm inaugurated by the Bond Government and the sacrifice of the very valuable property upon which it was located. This tragic act was not done, be it noted, by those who were considered, or at least considered themselves, as enemies of agriculture, but actually by those who claimed to be the true and real friends of this industry. Such an extraordinary occurrence has never, I think, been analysed by any writer seeking to understand the motives that lay behind it.

In fact, there was little need for any elaborate analysis. It was taken for granted by everyone interested that the abolition of the newly constructed model farm and experimental station was due to political antagonism and nothing else. The new government intended to foster and promote agriculture. They were not satisfied that the cautious methods pursued by the Bond Government were the proper ones for this country. To set up stables for live stock, to import thoroughbred animals in order to improve the breeds gradually, to make experiments with various vegetables and grasses, and keep careful records of yields over a period of years is undoubtedly taking a long view. To the new Government of 1909 it was a slow and painful process which did not give dividends quick enough.

In a subsequent article I propose to show the efforts made by the Morris Government to promote agriculture, and the extent to which these were enlarged by the first Squires Government of 1919. In the present article I think I ought to pause in order to enquire and examine and see if we know the reasons why it is desirable to promote agriculture and what are the ends we should have in mind.

Agriculture is the oldest industry practised by civilized man on earth. It is one of the healthiest occupations in which he may engage. Usually a man will be rewarded in proportion to the work

which he performs. "As he sows so shall he reap." To a large extent he is master of his own destiny. If he owns the soil he cultivates he is a freeman satisfying his own needs by the work of his own hands. He has solved the problem of security. As his work grows and his bounds extend his produce may go to feed other men and thus his labours take on a national character.

A wise government should seek to promote industries which are stable. The earth can show many gaping wounds to-day which once were mines. Forests have dwindled and disappeared. In Ireland after the destruction wrought by Cromwell they had a song "What shall we do without wood?" In our lifetime, too, we have seen forests disappear and leave barrens. We have witnessed the decline of the lobster fishery, the disappearance of the herring fishery and the decline of the salmon fishery and the seal fishery.

Industries which are fluctuating are uncertain for those engaged in them. Men who go to the ice-fisheries take a gamble every year. The great cod-fishery has often been called the greatest gamble of them all. The late Lord Morris used to say:—"The bank managers lend money to a merchant to buy goods to sell on credit to a fisherman on the security of fish swimming in the ocean." Long experience has trained the merchant to exact a usurious interest from the fisherman as an insurance against the failure of the voyage. This insurance is usually effected by a fifteen per cent. overcharge on the goods supplied, which in some cases amounts to as high a 60 per cent. interest per annum on the money amount involved.

Of all the industries known to man there is none so staple as agriculture. All along the main high-road around Conception Bay there may be seen every summer potatoes blossoming in the fields where they have blossomed this past fifty or sixty years, and although a very valuable rule of rotation of crops is being apparently disregarded

fields have never failed. That means that the land can be depended on as a faithful friend to give to the husbandman the reward due for his labours. Food for man and beast is produced in more or less abundance annually from our soil. A man marries and settles down on a piece of land. A little family grows up to manhood and womanhood, accustomed to the ploughing, and seeding and weeding and cultivating and digging year after year. Thus a settlement thrives and flourishes.

We are all aware of the distractions that tend to draw men away from the cultivation of the soil—mining, logging, construction work and so forth where cash is paid weekly; but these jobs are insecure. When they are finished the farms will still be going strong. Men who leave home on the farm often become restless and go from one job to another. There are sometimes big gaps between one job and another.

Agriculture must be recognized therefore as providing a greater degree of security than other industries, and for that as well as other reasons it is desirable that it should be encouraged in any country.

No one has more eloquently expressed our indebtedness to the land than Pope Leo XIII. "Nature," he eloquently says, "owes to man a storehouse that shall never fail, the daily supply of his daily wants." And this he finds only in the inexhaustible fertility of the earth. "Though divided among private owners"—and the Pope's wish is that every labourer own the soil he tills—"it none the less ministers to the needs of all. For there is no one who does not live on what the land brings forth." "*Rerum Novarum*," (Introduction to "Rural Roads to Security," by Ligutti and Rowe.

We too should aim at increasing the number of those persons who own the soil they till, and who are as nearly possible self supporting as a result of their efforts. If we want a prosperous country, if we want a healthy people, contented and patriotic and law abiding, then we must give infinitely more attention to the promotion of agriculture.

"The Song of the Plow," by Harry Kemp, expresses this idea with great force:

"It was I who built Chaldeas and the Cities of the Plain
It was Greece and Rome and Carthage and the opulence of Spain.
When their courtiers walked in scarlet and their queens wore chains
of gold,
And forgot 'twas I that made them, growing Godless folk and bold,
I went o'er them in judgment, and again my cornfields stood
Where empty courts bowed homage in obsequious multitude
For the nation that forgets me, in that hour her doom is sealed
By a judgment as from Heaven that can never be repelled."

And Napoleon once wrote as follows:—
"Agriculture is the soul, the foundation of the kingdom; industry ministers to the comfort and

happiness of the kingdom, foreign trade ought to be the servant of agriculture and home industry. These last ought never to be subordinate to trade."



Man's Inhumanity.

By REV. P. P. SHEEHAN, P. P.

Enjoying the sweet simplicities of life—
Lov'd home and well-beloved faces,
The free beatitudes of sea and sky
And charming wind-swept spaces,
Naught could shatter the peace
Between another mother's son and me,
But man's inhumanity.

Then caught in the inevitable web of
circumstance,
Sudden and precise, I saw him through
my gun sight,
A flash He fell—
Otherwise — I could not be here to tell.

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What is a Mystic?

By REV. CANON E. R. W. HIGHAM, M. A.

DO you know what a mystic is? Not a modern substitute, like so many things nowadays, for something you can't get—a substitute say for elastic, or plastic or something which sounds like it and which the storekeeper will tell you is "just as good."

A mystic is not modern at all, nor even ancient, but age long; not a substitute for anything, but the real thing.

In fact, not a thing at all, but a person, a real person, perhaps the *only* real person, certainly more real than people who lead the artificial lives of most of us

We have all heard of people who possess a sixth sense by which they are aware of people, or things, or events, of which the rest of us know nothing, rather like a dog who knows when there is a rabbit or a cat about, and can't understand why we don't get as excited about it as he does.

Or we have heard of people endowed with second-sight, by which they see—not people who aren't there, but who are invisible to ordinary mortals like ourselves.

Well the mystic is something like that, except that his sixth-sense is really first-sense, his second-sight is really first-sight, for what is invisible to others is to him more real than aught beside.

For the mystics are aware of God, the great Reality. To them,

*'Nearer He is than breathing,
Closer than hands and feet.'*

To put the same thing another way. They see life from the inside. Not that they neglect or are unaware of the outside of life—the visible, the material things. Some of them at least were vividly aware of the beauty, the attractiveness of created things: more so than other people, for they saw them as the work of God their Creator, though some mystics seemed strangely indifferent to them, so occupied were they with the thought of God Himself. But for all of them these were always the outside of life; he inside was not to be neglected for them.

If we may take an illustration we may think of a man buying a car. If he knows nothing about cars he may be put off with a good-looking body, an attractive colour. A child might press a button and think what a lovely car it was because it made

such a terrific noise, or a lady might admire the driving mirror in which she could see whatever ladies do see in mirrors, but the sensible man will lift up the bonnet and have a look at the engine; he will ask who the maker is and though he too will like a car of good appearance and of which the accessories are satisfactory he will not regard these as of the first importance.

Now the mystic is the man or woman who looks under the bonnet of life. He is concerned with the Maker, not chiefly with the outward appearance, for he recognises that it has received rough handling. But because he can trust the Maker, he knows that at heart life can be trusted too. That is what gives the mystic serenity, peace, joy even in the midst of a world like this.

These mystics then were people of all sorts, of all ages, lived at all times. Some were poor, some rich, some clever, some unlearned. They were of different races and languages, but they had one thing in common, not that they seemed more religious, or talked about religion, or went to church or said many prayers—though of course they did these things—but that they were aware of God. God was real to them, they were *alive* to God,

They could hear His voice speaking to them when others were deaf to it, they could see Him in his creation, and sometimes more directly than that, and because of this they could be indifferent to riches or poverty, success or failure, popularity or scorn.

People sometimes thought they were mad because they had such a different outlook from themselves, but in reality they were the really sane people in a mad world.

And there was nothing half-hearted about them. We have met people who throw themselves into everything they do—their work, their hobbies, their games. Everything else has to take second place. That is how the mystics were, except that they threw themselves into the things of God and the service of God. Everything had to take second place to that.

Or think of it in yet another way. Note the difference in a man—say one who has always been rather self-centered—when he falls in love. He forgets himself now; all his thoughts centre on, all his actions gravitate round the person he loves. He thinks what he can do to please her, how he can arrange to be in her presence.

The language of the mystics is the language of lovers; they are in love—in love with God.

We have only to look at the lives of some of these 'lovers of God' to see how diverse they were in temperament and circumstances, while alike in this one thing.

One has come into particular prominence during these days of disillusionment in which we live.

He is known as St. John of the Cross and was born in Spain about 400 years ago. A devout son of the Church, of peasant origin, he lived in stirring days.

During his lifetime some of his countrymen were sailing the seas in search of the treasures of El Dorado, but his eyes were fixed on greater and heavenly treasure.

A member of the Carmelite Order, he became involved in religious quarrels and as everybody knows there are none more bitter. Thrown into prison under barbarous conditions his soul grew and developed and found utterance in some of the finest literature of all time. (How strange it is, by the way, that imprisonment should have this effect on noble souls. St. John the Evangelist, St. Paul, St. Francis of Assisi, our own John Bunyan—all of them have produced mystic writings which will live for all time—and all suffered unmerited imprisonment).

Of course imprisonment did affect him; being human it could not be otherwise. Like a good many before and after him, he went through times of deep depression—what he himself called "the dark night of the soul." But light shone through this spiritual darkness as the rays of the sun found their way through the chinks of his prison, and persecuted and ill-treated as he was by his own brethren of the Order, perhaps his most characteristic utterance was: "Where there is no love, put love in and you will draw love out."

That was his attitude towards others, while his attitude to things was summed up in his frequent use of the Pauline phrase: "in order to arrive at possessing everything, desire to possess nothing."

Men have forgotten the very names of the great men who led the Spanish Armada against our shores in St. John's life-time, but wherever the Spanish language is read or men desire to know the deep things of God, his words will be read and treasured.

Or look again at one of his friends, one who had so much influence on his life as on the lives of so many others in her day—Santa Teresa.

A woman of wide learning and great culture she devoted her great gifts to the service of God and His Church, and her great administrative ability has played no small part in making religious communities the power they are in the world to-day. Born in the purple, romantic in temperament, fond of social intercourse, with a keen sense of humour

(and no doubt she found plenty of need of it and scope for it) she was drawn early to religion and succeeded in writing a series of works which are among the glories of Spanish literature as well as the best guides to the mysteries of the inner life, and found numerous convents in the face of tremendous difficulties, to reform a great religious order in spite of the opposition of members of the Order whom she called the "pussy-cats," to manage the finances of all these enterprises, to live a life of prayer herself and all this in the face of persistent ill-health. This, says a modern writer, was a sufficient programme for one soul.

Everybody knows and loves St. Francis of Assisi, but not everybody knows the source of his loveliness—that he loved the birds, the flowers and the leper because of his deep love for God who made them—and St. Ignatius Loyola, the great soldier-saint, who was so fine a soldier of Christ not merely because he had learnt his soldiering in a hard school, but because he had learnt his Christianity in a hard school too. He more than most learnt that it is a hard thing to be a Christian and he would not have recognized much of the "religion made easy" which passes for Christianity to-day.

But why bring all this up? Why talk about men and women dead and gone when we men and women of to-day have our lives to live and our problems to face in a strenuous world. It is for that very reason.

The world has need of God, but how to get in touch with Him! There is the secret so many have failed to discover. And these mystics had discovered it. They were experts in religion and it is experts we need.

True, the world has fallen on evil days. We know these experts, people say. The people whom Governments send round to teach us how how to weave when they themselves can't mend a ladder in a stocking. Or the men who teach us to grow potatoes when they themselves have never seen a potato till it appears on their dinner table. Ah! but these are not true experts, they are only shams. They speak the language, make the motions, but don't really know their job.

And we suffer from these "experts" in religion too. People who speak the language of religion, make the motions, but can't mend a spiritual ladder or grow a potato in the garden of their souls.

But that doesn't detract from the value of those who know their job. And such were the mystics. Perhaps those who have taken the trouble to read this little article may have been inspired to try once more to follow in the steps of these "experts;" stumbling perhaps, passing sometimes through their dark night of the soul, when God seemed far away and prayers dead and lifeless and communions meaningless, but still trying to follow along that mystic way of humility and love and prayer, sure that it will be lit up for them and lead them to the feet of God.

The Poor Man Pays Again

By REV. M. T. CONNOLLY.



URING the past five years we in Newfoundland have witnessed a phenomenal and much-welcomed increase in the Internal Revenue of the country, an increase that should give us a breathing-space in which to reorientate ourselves after the war. For running a government is in many ways equivalent to running a business. If any given business does not show at least some profit over a reasonable period of time, it does not require a Jeremias to know it is headed for eventual bankruptcy. In the same way, if a government is not able to meet its own expenses out of Internal Revenue, and have something left over for improvements and expansion, then that government is headed for the rocks.

Ad Valorem Duty.

A large part of this increase in taxation comes from the ad valorem duty at present in vogue on goods imported. I have no desire to advocate free trade, for I believe that at least protective tariffs and tariffs on luxuries are good and necessary, nor do I mean to suggest that the ad valorem duty is anything but a just and fair way of collecting revenue. But I do think that any system which relies in whole or in part on an ad valorem duty, brings with it of necessity three obnoxious effects, and that the same, if not a greater, amount of money could be collected with equal fairness and in a manner which would give the poor man with a large family a more even break.

Poor Man Pays Piper.

The first obnoxious effect is that such a form of indirect taxation hits the poor man with a large or even mediocre family too hard. It affects him to a degree entirely out of proportion to his income and expenses as compared with the income and expenses of his richer brethren. For on every article of clothing for his family, and on most kinds of food, he has to pay this indirect taxation to a comparatively greater degree than has the bachelor or the man with a small family, because of the greater amounts he has to buy. It is true that he will

probably be exempt from the income tax which the others must pay, but this exemption is most certainly more than outbalanced over the course of the year by these same greater quantities for which he is responsible.

Shoddy Market.

Secondly, even a casual trip through the shopping and business quarters of St. John's—and the same thing holds for the outport merchants—would seem to show that in very many instances business houses are forced by this tax to go to what we will call the *shoddy market* for their wares. The prices current in Newfoundland at the present time are those one would expect to pay for the very best quality goods, but in many cases the goods themselves, while perhaps the best procurable on the local market, are by no means the best that can be obtained in other countries, the merchant is faced with the very difficult problem of providing the home market with a product which he can sell at a reasonable profit after he has paid the import duty, and still keep his prices from becoming prohibitive. The better the quality of the goods his buyer obtains, the higher the duty he has to pay, and consequently the higher the selling price must be. In order to keep his final selling price within the reach of the pockets or the inclinations of his customers, he is forced, in many instances, to accept inferior and lower priced goods.

Top Heavy Civil Service.

Thirdly, the high ad valorem tax on imported goods, which of itself increases the desire in most normal people to dodge it if, when, where and how they can, demands of necessity a large staff of customs men, tide-waiters and clerks all over the country. Their salaries have to be paid out of the proceeds of the tax, and when the final analysis is reached, it is a matter of doubt if the same amount could not be collected in other ways, with less trouble, and with less inconvenience to the ordinary working man, who after all, forms the greater part of the nation.

Property Tax.

I have mentioned the possibility of an alternative means of inland revenue, a means that has proven itself over the years in the case of municipalities, and which should work equally as well over the country as a whole. This alternative could be called, in the wide sense of the phrase, a property tax. Such a tax would mean that part of the costs of government would be met equally by all the people all over the country, instead of as at present, people in a few specialized areas.

There are thousands of people all over Newfoundland who have homes and land, and who have never *directly* contributed one cent towards the costs of administration. It is true that they have contributed indirectly by buying goods that have had duty paid on them, but not as much as they should in proportion to their stake in the country. I think that if the straight issue were put to most of these people, a property tax in consideration of a definite and substantial modification in the ad valorem duty on goods imported (except of course where such duty may have a purely protective nature) the subsequent decrease in the cost of living, of clothing feeding, sheltering, and rearing their families would incline them to vote for the property tax.

Of course the large vested interests who may hold huge areas of land in fee simple or for a nominal figure would immediately raise a storm of protest, but any government which would sacrifice the well-being of its own citizens to the interests of Big Business could scarcely be worthy of the name of Government. In the case of those industries like lumbering and mining, where outside companies have very large tracts of land under their control with only a remote possibility of their ever being completely worked, a tax, not on the *actual* but on the *potential* output, would not only make up for any deficit in revenue, but would make sure that these concerns could not allow such immense sources of wealth to the country at large to lie fallow. At the risk of being offensive, here are two examples:

Lumber Areas.

Let us suppose that some lumber concern had an area of 100,000 acres of standing timber under its direct control. With a tax only on actual wood cut and processed, such a company need produce only as it sees fit, and can tie up thousands of acres of land and potential millions of dollars at its own

sweet will. This tying-up process costs them nothing, for they may have their holdings in fee simple. A tax, not upon actual processed wood, but upon the timber that they hold, i.e., the potential processed wood, would ensure two things.

(a) That the company will work to its full capacity and extent, and will consequently employ more labour, with a subsequent secondary benefit to the country, which after all owns the timber in the first instance.

(b) Such a tax would guard against the greed of lumberhogs. Any company seeking rights over timber-stands would either have to work the areas now tied up in order to get at least the value of their tax from such holdings, or else give up their dog-in-the-manger attitude and release these areas for development by others who may be interested and who are now excluded by privilege.

Mining Areas.

The same situation holds for many mining areas scattered undeveloped throughout the country. These are being held by outside interests either in fee simple or for a nominal sum. Companies are thereby permitted either not to produce at all, in which case potential wealth is being lost to the country at a time when it is desperately needed, for to produce only such amounts of the various ores as they see fit. At the same time they prevent others from producing by hogging undeveloped claims. If they thus prevent the country from obtaining revenue to which it has a right, then the country is justified in making them pay the potential lost taxation.

If there were a tax on the potential proven stores of ore instead of the actual ore produced, companies who now work only six or seven of a discovered thirty or forty pockets of ore, and at the same time prevent others from using these pockets by holding mining rights in fee simple, would be compelled either to work to full capacity or release their selfish hold on these ore pockets.

As the ad valorem tax stands now, it is the poor man, the man with the small income and the large expense account, who has to pay the piper to a degree altogether disproportionate to his comparative means. At the same time, the local markets are becoming increasingly flooded with shoddy materials, the cost of living is rising beyond all reasonable proportions, and the costs of administration are progressively increasing until they have almost become too great a burden for a small nation of only three hundred and odd thousand people. If an equitable and less burdensome substitute can be found in a property tax, why not at least give it a try?

Paris is Set Free.

For four long years France waited
Whilst shackles bound her tight,
And foes with venom sated
But gloated o'er her plight;
And oft e'en friends were perplexed
So listless she appeared,
But caution was her pretext—
Petain a tough course steered.

Yet Freedom's fires were burning,
Smouldering fierce and strong
In hearts with eager yearning
To right their country's wrong;
And so great consternation
Came from "the Underground"
Whilst Toulon's grand oblation
The foes did well astound.

Then "D." Day brought such dawning
As never mortal eyes
Had seen, an ocean spawning
With craft and ship-filled skies;
Whilst ablest martial foresight
Had every move ordained,
And soon troops were on shore right—
The first foot-hold obtained,

Since that morn famed for ever
The Allies did advance
With thrusts and drives most clever
Nigh to the heart of France,
Then at a signal given
From high authority
The Nazi chain was riven,
And Paris was set free!

Most meet did Eisenhower
Deem it the patriots brave
Should rise when came the hour
Their citadel to save;
The past four years redeeming,
When they at leash did strain,
The French with rapture teeming
Freed Paris on the Seine.

Genevieve, the Shepherdess,
And Joan the warrior Maid
Through all this time of dire distress
Unceasingly have prayed
At Throne of God in glory
That France might rise again
And purged by ordeal gory
A grand new life obtain;
And as Rheim's chains are riven
Which Joan of yore set free.
As well as Paris given
Its longed for liberty.
There must be 'joy in Heaven,'
As well as on the earth,
That 'so as by fire' shriven
Freedom has its re-birth!

—Bertille Tobin.



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"Let not thy heart be troubled," Jesus
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